

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND *PATENT*
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s):	Yasuhiro UMEKAGE, et al.	Docket No:	29288.4600
Int'l Serial No:	PCT/JP00/04165	Int'l Filing Date:	June 23, 2000
Priority Date:	June 24, 1999	Serial No.:	To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit:	To Be Assigned	Examiner:	To Be Assigned
TITLE:	FLOWMETER		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee and prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

In the Claims:

✓ Please cancel claims 1-69 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following claims 70-148:

70. (NEW) A flowmeter, comprising:

transmission/reception means for transmitting/receiving a signal using a state change of fluid that flows in a flow path;

repetition means for repeating the transmission/reception of the signal by the transmission/reception means a predetermined number of times;

time measurement means for measuring a propagation time of a state change of the fluid during when the transmission/reception of the signal is repeated by the repetition means;

flow rate detection means for detecting a flow rate of the fluid based on the propagation time measured by the time measurement means;

AI
Cant.